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Biennial Report

of the

NORTH CAROLINA STATE COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND

From July 1, 1958 through June 30, 1960

*"And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not;
I will lead them in paths that they have not known;
I will make darkness light before them."*

—Isaiah xlii, 16.

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Governor Luther H. Hodges presents an award "In recognition of outstanding service in promoting the economic well-being of the handicapped through employment" to Mr. Clyde G. Harrell, Sr., Manager of the Lions Workshop for the Blind, Durham.

"STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
EMPLOY THE HANDICAPPED COMMISSION

This Citation for Outstanding Service is Conferred Upon
CLYDE G. HARRELL, SR."

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

To The Honorable Luther H. Hodges
The Governor of North Carolina
Raleigh, North Carolina

Dear Governor Hodges:

Pursuant to Chapter 53, Public Laws of 1935, as amended, and subsequent legislation, I have the honor to submit to you the accompanying report of the North Carolina State Commission for the Blind for the biennial period beginning with July 1, 1958 and ending June 30, 1960. This report concerns the management and financial transactions of this Department.

Respectfully submitted,

SAM. M. CATHEY, Chairman

N. C. State Commission for the Blind

BOARD MEMBERS
N. C. STATE COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND

(Six Members—Appointed by the Governor)

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DR. HOWARD E. JENSEN, *Chairman*, Executive Committee, Durham, N. C.

MR. H. C. BRADSHAW, Durham, N. C.

MR. FRANK C. KING, Brevard, N. C.

MR. SAM ALFORD, Henderson, N. C.

MR. JOE W. HOOD, Wilmington, N. C.

(Five—*Ex-Officio* Members—Designated by the Legislature)

MR. J. W. BEACH, *Director, State Employment Service, Division of Employment Security Commission*, Raleigh, N. C.

MR. EGBERT N. PEELER, Superintendent, State School for the Blind, Raleigh, N. C.

DR. J. W. R. NORTON, *State Health Director, State Board of Health*, Raleigh, N. C.

COL. CHARLES H. WARREN, *Director, Vocational Rehabilitation*, Raleigh, N. C.

DR. ELLEN B. WINSTON, *Commissioner, State Board of Public Welfare*, Raleigh, N. C.

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N. C. BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE BLIND

JUDGE SAM M. CATHEY, *Chairman*
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Durham, N. C.

MR. H. C. BRADSHAW
Durham, N. C.

MR. SAM ALFORD
Henderson, N. C.

MR. J. W. HOOD
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Brevard, N. C.

MR. O. D. NELSON, *Vice-Chairman*
Greensboro, N. C.

MR. V. J. ASHBAUGH, SR.
Durham, N. C.

MR. H. I. McDOUGLE
Charlotte, N. C.

MR. ALSTON B. BROOM
Fayetteville, N. C.

MR. DAVID R. MAUNEY, JR.
Cherryville, N. C.

MR. FRANK BROWN
Greenville, N. C.

MR. J. D. HUGGINS
Greensboro, N. C.

ADVISORY MEDICAL COMMITTEE

(Surgeons Certified by American Board of Ophthalmology)

- DR. GEORGE T. THORNHILL, *Chairman*, Raleigh, N. C.
DR. V. M. HICKS, SR., *Supervising Ophthalmologist, Aid to the Blind*, Raleigh, N. C.
DR. S. D. MCPHERSON, *Medical Consultant, Rehabilitation Program*, Durham, N. C.
- DR. PAUL M. ABERNETHY, Burlington, N. C.
DR. W. BANKS ANDERSON, Durham, N. C.
DR. ELBERT C. ANDERSON, Wilmington, N. C.
DR. JAMES W. BIZZELL, Goldsboro, N. C.
DR. H. H. BRIGGS, Asheville, N. C.
DR. H. M. DALTON, Kinston, N. C.
DR. ALAN DAVIDSON, New Bern, N. C.
DR. JOHN L. ETHERINGTON, Goldsboro, N. C.
DR. GEORGE W. FISHER, Fayetteville, N. C.
DR. GEORGE D. GADDY, Burlington, N. C.
DR. THOMAS D. GHENT, Charlotte, N. C.
DR. WALTER R. GRAHAM, Charlotte, N. C.
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DR. ERNEST W. LARKIN, JR., Washington, N. C.
DR. RUTH LEONARD, Charlotte, N. C.
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DR. M. N. LYMBERIS, Charlotte, N. C.
DR. THOMAS A. MARTIN, Raleigh, N. C.
DR. E. E. MOORE, Asheville, N. C.
DR. GEORGE T. NOEL, Kannapolis, N. C.
DR. ROBERT E. ODOM, Asheville, N. C.
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DR. M. H. RUBIN, Greensboro, N. C.
DR. JOHN L. SHIPLEY, Elizabeth City, N. C.
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DR. J. LAWTON SMITH, Durham, N. C.
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DR. F. W. STOCKER, Durham, N. C.
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DR. CHARLES W. TILLET, Charlotte, N. C.
DR. LARRY TURNER, Durham, N. C.
DR. RICHARD WEAVER, Winston-Salem, N. C.
DR. S. WEIZENBLATT, Asheville, N. C.
DR. JOHN D. WILSEY, Winston-Salem, N. C.
DR. M. WAYNE WOODARD, Asheville, N. C.

INTRODUCTION

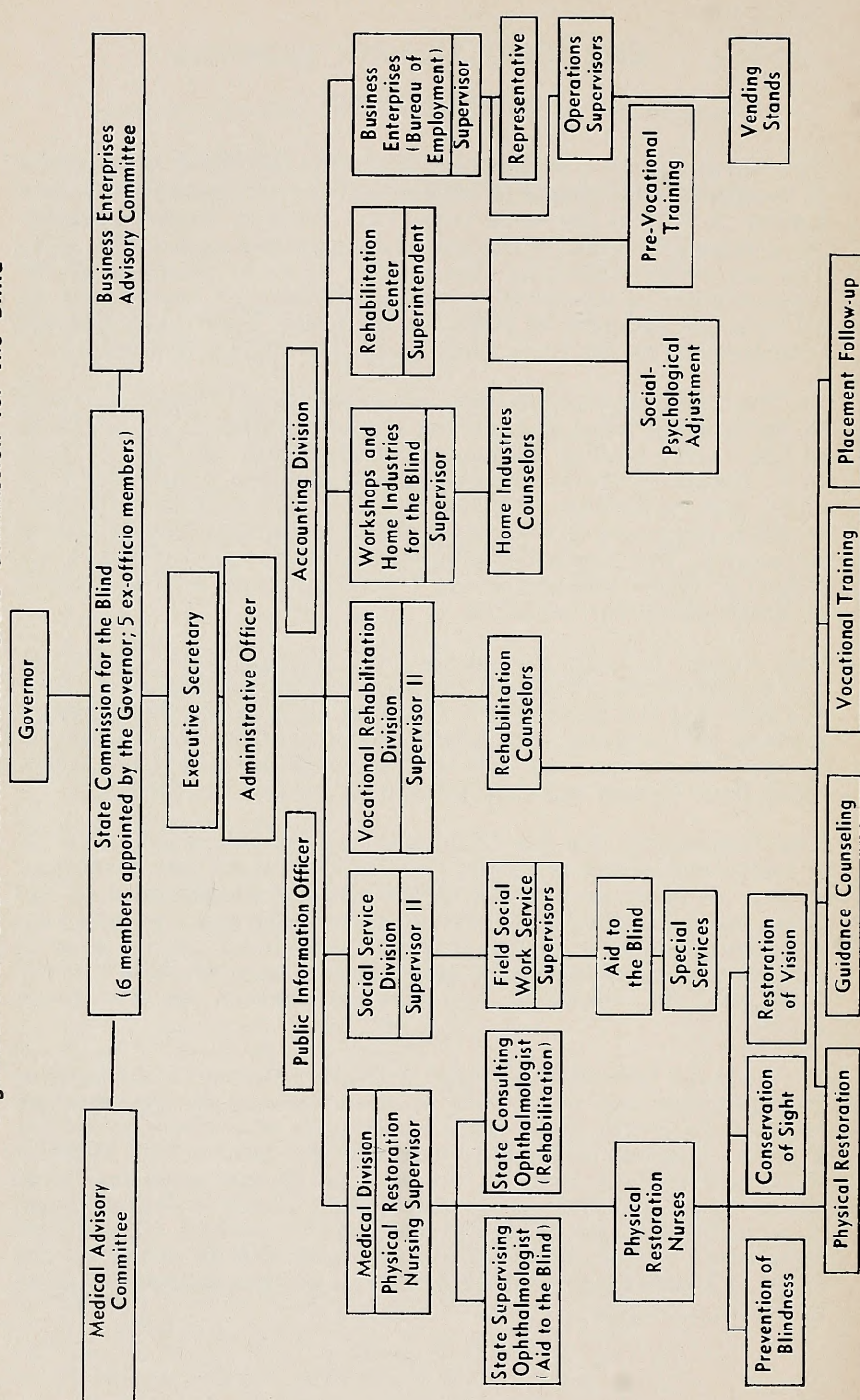
The North Carolina State Commission for the Blind was created by Legislative enactment in 1935 and began to function as a state agency in July of the same year. This Biennial Report presents the accomplishments for the period July 1, 1958 — June 30, 1960. The law under which the Commission operates places on it the responsibility of interpreting, administering and supervising an all inclusive program of work for the blind. These activities are accomplished by the three main divisions of the Commission:

1—The Social Service Division which supervises financial grants to the indigent blind and renders special services to all the blind of the State; 2—The Medical Division which carries on three main phases of work, prevention of blindness, conservation of sight, and restoration of vision; 3—The Rehabilitation Division which is composed of five major parts: a. General Rehabilitation Service; b. The North Carolina Rehabilitation Center for Adult Blind; c. Home Industries; d. Workshops; and e. The Bureau of Employment for the Blind.

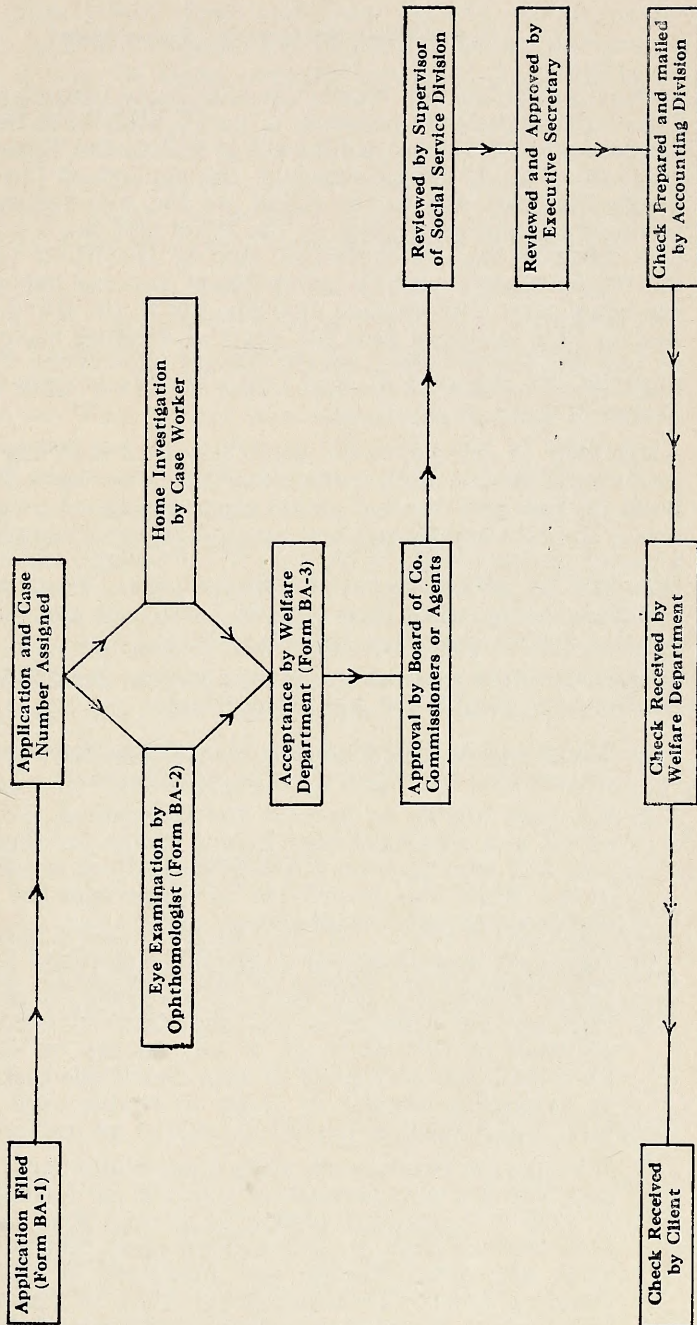
This report reflects the continuous development of activities and opportunities offered to the blind citizens of North Carolina. We feel that the blind of our State, as well as the thousands of persons with serious eye defects, have profited by the efforts of the Commission, and through the services rendered to them, many have become self-maintaining citizens of the State.

The Commission for the Blind has made a concerted effort to conserve and utilize all State, Federal and community resources, so that as many as possible of the visually handicapped of the State could benefit by the use of such resources. Our program considers the whole man against his background of social, medical, and financial needs and endeavors to help him help himself to fit into his community and take his place in the life of our State.

We could not present this report without comment on the loyalty, perserverence and hard work of the staff and all persons and organizations who have made such noble contributions to the forward progress of good eye care for our citizens. The Federal, State and County agencies, as well as private agencies, have given much aid and co-operation. The North Carolina State Association for the Blind and the North Carolina Lions Clubs have given untold financial aid and unselfish devotion to the cause of a better way of life for the visually handicapped citizens of North Carolina.

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APPLICANT



SOCIAL SERVICE DIVISION

CHRISTINE ANDERSON, *Supervisor*

In North Carolina the North Carolina State Commission for the Blind administers the program of public assistance for the blind. The amount of money available for Aid to the Blind payments must of necessity be governed by the amount of the State's appropriation for Aid to the Blind, as the non-Federal share in payments is shared equally by the State and the counties. There is a fixed ceiling on individual Aid to the Blind payments of \$70.00 per month, with the exception of persons requiring boarding home care. Our average monthly Aid to the Blind payment is \$52.76. This we know falls far short of meeting basic need, even on our low cost or sub-standard budget allowances. The average basic requirements of the Aid to the Blind recipient range from \$75.00 to \$100.00 per month.

About 60% of our Aid to the Blind case load is in late middle age and above, and a high percentage of these have been totally blind or had very limited vision since childhood or early adulthood. The late middle-age and aged blind are unemployable, and a major portion of them have no work background or aptitudes that can be effectively used without sight. Their handicap of blindness is increased not only by advanced age, but by poor general health and often secondary disabilities.

Under our State plan blind persons having the following qualifications are eligible for Aid to the Blind:

1. Whose vision with glasses is insufficient for use in ordinary occupations for which sight is essential; and
2. Who are unable to provide for themselves the necessities of life and who have insufficient means for their own support and who have no relative or relatives or other persons in this State able to provide for them who are legally responsible for their maintenance; and
3. Who have been residents of the State of North Carolina one year immediately preceding the application; and
4. Who are not inmates of any charitable or correctional institution of this State or of any county or city thereof: Provided, that an inmate of such charitable institution may be granted a benefit in order to enable such persons to maintain himself or herself outside of an institution; and
5. Who are not publicly soliciting alms in any part of the State, and who are not, because of physical or mental condition, in need of continuing institutional care. Provided, that the State agency shall, in determining need, take into consideration any other income and resources of the individual claiming Aid to the Blind; except that, in making such determination, the State agency shall disregard the first fifty dollars (\$50.00) per month of earned income.

As a result of the change in Federal matching formula, effective October 1, 1958, which made additional Federal money available, we were able to increase Aid to the Blind money payments; our average Aid to the Blind payment increased from \$45.11 to \$52.76 during the biennium.

Under our plan for hospitalization of Aid to the Blind recipients, any Aid to the Blind recipient may be eligible when it becomes necessary. Authorization for hospitalization of Aid to the Blind recipients is made by the county superintendent of welfare.

Financial assistance to a needy blind person, though very important meets only one phase of his problem. It is true that giving financial assistance will relieve the immediate problem, but from the standpoint of the future, he is little better off. Specialized services are often needed to enable him to achieve personal independence and social acceptance. The objective of specialized services is to enable the individual to achieve as high a degree of adjustment as is possible, and to utilize in every way possible all opportunities for independence and self-help.

Efforts have been made throughout this biennium by both the Field Representatives and Case Work staff to increase public understanding of our program; 913 talks were made to civic groups and over radio in an effort to interpret the services available to the blind through the State Commission for the Blind.

The following data indicate the many types of specialized services provided the blind in North Carolina:

CHART I

SPECIALIZED SERVICES GIVEN BY CASEWORKERS FOR THE BLIND IN COOPERATION WITH LIONS CLUBS AND THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

	Biennium 1956-58	Biennium 1958-60
1. Home Visits -----	33,910	30,748
2. Assistance in personal adjustment to blindness, assistance in learning to utilize to a maximum de- gree the other senses and assistance in developing effective ways of performing without sight the or- dinary activities of living -----	14,502	15,147

3. Assistance in Family Adjustment—Instructing the family in ways of helping the blind person to adjust to blindness—Assisting the blind person in resuming his or her normal responsibilities in the home through instruction in child care, performance of household duties, etc. -----	8,830	8,936
4. Instruction in Therapy Crafts—Hobby Crafts—sewing, weaving, chair caning, mat making, leather work, basketry, crocheting, knitting, gardening, raising pets and farm animals, etc. -----	3,877	3,392
5. Academic Work—Reading and writing Braille, typing, signature writing, referral to State School for the Blind, referral to classes for partially sighted, distribution of sight-saving material, information regarding admission to Rehabilitation Center for the Blind. -----	10,483	9,788
6. Medical Care—This includes planning for the treatment, transportation and follow-up work in cooperation with the Medical Division -----	28,784	27,017
7. Recreation—Plays, movies, picnics, parties, distribution of gift radios -----	13,345	14,466
8. Miscellaneous Services -----	7,563	5,817
9. Talking Book Machines distributed -----	987	1,118

Both State and Federal laws provide that any applicant or recipient for Aid to the Blind may appeal to the State Commission for the Blind, requesting a hearing if he is dissatisfied because of the following reasons: If his application is not taken; if his application is not acted upon within thirty-one days; if his application is rejected; if he is dissatisfied with the amount of his monthly payments; if he is dissatisfied when his payment is changed or stopped; or if he is found eligible and no payment is made within thirty-one days. The State agency upon receipt of such appeal must arrange for a fair hearing.

During 1958-60 nineteen requests for hearings were received; the following tabulations show the number and action taken by the State Commission for the Blind:

Requests received -----	19
Total handled -----	13
Requests withdrawn or disposed of by other means, such as adjustment by county prior to hearing -----	6
Disposed of by decision of the State Commission in favor of appellant -----	4
County action upheld -----	9

The issues involved in the appeals were budgetary deficiency, income or property of appellant's family and income or property of appellant.

Complete informational data on the number of persons receiving Aid to the Blind payments, the number terminated or rejected, and the age, race and range of payments is given in Chart II.

CHART II

AN ANALYSIS OF AID TO THE BLIND ACCEPTANCES—REJECTIONS—TERMINATIONS

1. Number of persons receiving AB payments June 30, 1958 -----	5,019
2. Number of applications accepted July 1, 1958-June 30, 1960 ----	1,861
3. Total number of persons receiving AB July 1, 1958-June 30, 1960	6,880
4. Number of AB cases closed July 1, 1958-June 30, 1960 -----	1,731

Reasons for Closing:

a. Death -----	774
b. Employment of Recipient -----	57
c. Employment of other person in home -----	53
d. Receipt of Servicemen's allotment -----	11
e. Increased support from persons outside home -----	18
f. Increased resources of persons in home -----	76
g. Originally ineligible under State plan -----	3
h. Vision restored -----	138
i. Soliciting alms -----	3
j. Increased resources -----	52
k. Admitted to institution -----	99
l. Receipt of other type of Public or Private aid -----	12
m. Loss of residence -----	46
n. Other -----	389
5. Number of AB recipients June 30, 1960 -----	5,149
6. Number of AB applications rejected July 1, 1958-June 30, 1960	406

Reasons for Rejection:

a. Ineligible on basis of vision -----	157
b. Ineligible on basis of residence -----	2
c. Other resources -----	210
d. Inmate of Public Institution -----	2
e. Other -----	35
7. North Carolina average monthly AB payment June 1958 -----	\$45.11
8. North Carolina average monthly AB payment June 1960 -----	\$52.76
9. Range of monthly AB payments:	

	June 1958	June 1960
a. \$ 5.00—\$ 9.99 -----	23	24
b. 10.00— 14.99 -----	78	80
c. 15.00— 19.99 -----	141	120
d. 20.00— 24.99 -----	149	140
e. 25.00— 29.99 -----	244	165
f. 30.00— 34.99 -----	434	249
g. 35.00— 39.99 -----	700	364
h. 40.00— 44.99 -----	537	647
i. 45.00— 49.99 -----	567	498
j. 50.00— 54.99 -----	428	552
k. 55.00— 59.99 -----	381	435
l. 60.00— 64.99 -----	1,337	409
m. 65.00— 69.99 -----		296
n. 70.00— -----		972
o. 71.00—195.00 -----		193

10. Age of AB applicants July 1, 1958-June 30, 1960

a. 0- 5	25
b. 6-18	244
c. 19-29	118
d. 30-44	225
e. 45-64	494
f. 65-over	755

11. Race of AB applicants July 1, 1958-June 30, 1960

a. White	1,077
b. Negro	776
c. Indian	8

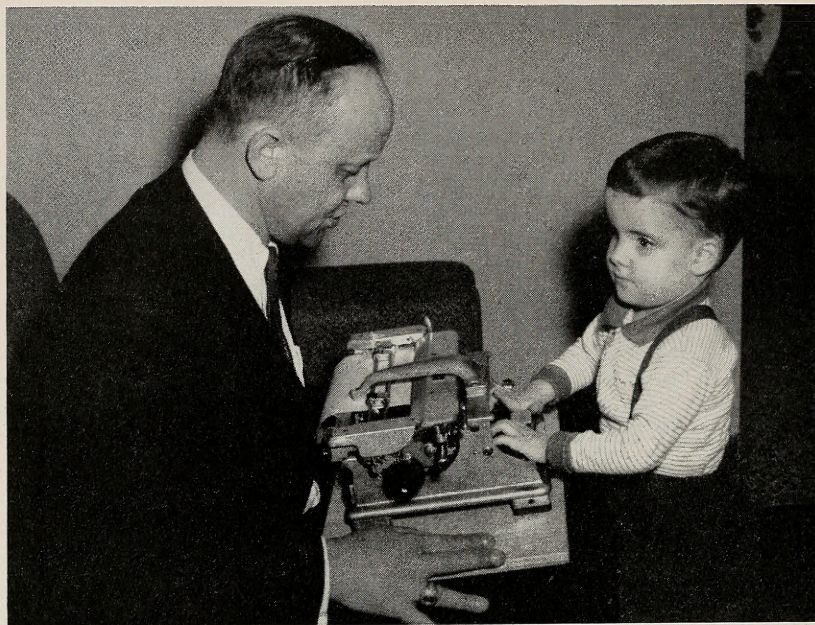
The chart, Appendix 1, shows known number of blind in the State as 12,432; data given by counties, age, race, sex, etc.



Totally Blind from Birth, These Twins Attend Public School and Experience no Difficulty in Maintaining Excellent Grades.



Case worker for the Blind Demonstrating the Use of a Can Opener to Blind Man; Case Worker Teaching a Blind Woman How to Use a Dial Telephone; Visually Impaired Home Maker Doing the Family Ironing.



Case Worker Explaining the Use of the Braille Writer. Case Worker Teaching a Visually Impaired Merchant Braille so He May Be More Proficient in His Business.

MEDICAL DIVISION

ANNIE RUTH PENNEY, *Supervisor*

The Medical Division personnel, working with all interested agencies and civic clubs, offers medical services on a state-wide basis to indigent persons needing eye care. The primary objectives are the prevention of blindness, the conservation of sight and the restoration of vision. Services and education are the principal means of reaching these objectives. Services include eye examinations, treatment, hospitalization and surgery. Education is achieved through interpretation of clinic reports to public health personnel; through films, pamphlets; through radio, television, the press; and promotion of institutes for nurses and teachers in cooperation with the State Society for the Prevention of Blindness.

The three medical schools in the State provide free eye examinations for persons certified on the basis of need by welfare departments. Recommendations are forwarded from these hospitals to the Commission for the Blind for authorization for surgery, hospitalization, treatment and other services.

The Memorial Hospital Eye Clinic in Chapel Hill has provided space for a Visual Aids Clinic, which is held once each month. The North Carolina State Association for the Blind has provided equipment. The North Carolina State Commission for the Blind and interested eye physicians cooperate in an effort to determine to what extent this type of service can benefit those persons who have serious visual handicaps. Interest in the Visual Aids Clinic has increased in the past two years. The clinic operates at full capacity, and applications for appointment continue to increase.

The Variety Club Eye Clinic in Charlotte and the Asheville Lions Club Eye Clinic provide a continuous program of medical services. Eye clinics are held throughout the state in counties where sustained medical facilities are not available. The frequency of these clinics—weekly, monthly, quarterly, or yearly, depends on the need, facilities available, local interest and cooperation. The Commission for the Blind uses all local and community public services, including services of local eye physicians wherever available.

In the period from July 1, 1958¹, through June 30, 1960, 58,678 indigent persons were given eye examinations, 8,098 were given eye treatment, 2,664 were furnished eye operations, and 33,807 pairs of glasses were fitted. Since there is no item in the agency's medical budget for glasses, most of the 33,807 pairs of glasses were purchased by the three hundred or more Lions Clubs, the North Carolina State Association for the Blind, and the School Health Program.

Lions Clubs and lay people are becoming more interested in pre-

vention of blindness through early detection and medical treatment of glaucoma. The fact that two persons out of every one hundred past the age of forty years have glaucoma, and that this dread disease results in blindness unless it is discovered and treated in the early stages, inspired the High Point Lions Clubs to promote the first Lions-sponsored glaucoma detection project in the state. In three days, May 18, 19 and 20, 1960, 972 persons had their eye tension tested. This screening service was furnished without cost by the physicians to all persons regardless of ability to pay. All suspected cases were referred to their eye physicians for further examination and diagnosis.

Lions everywhere are interested in prevention of blindness. Glaucoma is responsible for twelve per cent of the fifty per cent of preventable blindness. Interest in these projects, as result of the High Point venture, is spreading, and a number of clubs have plans well under way for glaucoma detection projects.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE MEDICAL DIVISION:

1. Eye Examinations
2. Medical Treatment
3. Hospitalization
4. Eye Surgery

PROCEDURE FOR SECURING SERVICES:

Certification For Eye Care: Eye Examination—Treatment—Surgery—Hospitalization.

The client applies to the County Department of Public Welfare for eye care. The Superintendent of the County Department of Public Welfare determines whether or not the client is eligible on the basis of need to receive services offered by the State Commission for the Blind. All individuals or families receiving financial assistance from the County Welfare Department should be certified for eye care without further investigation.

The current standards used by the Department of Public Welfare to certify persons for care through the Medical Care Commission certification plan will be used for certifying applicants who are not Public Assistance recipients for eye examination and minor treatment.

If surgery or extensive treatment is recommended, the income guide will be used to determine eligibility for such services.

If the client is eligible, the County Superintendent of the Department of Public Welfare furnishes the client with duplicate need slips and assists the client in securing the services indicated or recommended.

Practitioners' Offices—The client goes to the practitioner's office at the appointed time and presents the need slips, furnished him and signed by the County Superintendent of Public Welfare.

Sustaining Clinics—If the client is to be examined in a sustaining clinic, the certification of need slip is furnished to the person in charge of the clinic, and an appointment is requested.

Group Clinics—Plans and appointments are made in advance as to the number of persons (35) to be seen in a group clinic. Persons requesting clinic services are certified by the County Superintendent of Public Welfare. A list signed by the Superintendent is furnished to the Physical Restoration Nurse on the day of the clinic.

School Health Program—Children with vision defects should be referred to a licensed practitioner cooperating with the North Carolina State Commission for the Blind or to a sustaining eye clinic of the Commission for services indicated or recommended in localities where neither a cooperating licensed practitioner nor a sustaining eye clinic is available, a group clinic will be arranged upon receipt of a request made to the Commission. The Commission will arrange for the clinic in cooperation with the local School Superintendent, the County Health Officer and the County Superintendent of Public Welfare. The North Carolina State Commission for the Blind cannot pay for examinations unless the child has been certified by the County Welfare Department in accordance with procedures now in effect. If medical, surgical or hospital treatment is required, the parent or guardian will apply for aid through the County Welfare Department. In accordance with cooperative plans now in effect, the Welfare Department will process the case through the Commission for the Blind. The State Commission for the Blind will authorize the case in advance of hospitalization in the usual manner. If funds from the State Commission for the Blind are not adequate to cover the estimated expense for the case, the North Carolina State Commission for the Blind will write a letter to the County Health Department to determine whether or not School Health Funds are available. If such funds are available from this source, the case will be authorized.

FINANCING OF MEDICAL EYE PROGRAM:

Financing is shared by the Lions Clubs, State Association for the Blind, Variety Clubs, School Health Funds, and the State Commission for the Blind.

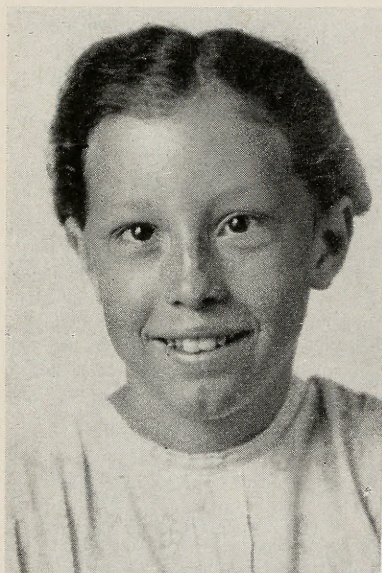
FOLLOW-UP WORK:

1. Surgery is done by eye physicians who are American Board Diplomates, or eye physicians who are accepted applicants for American Board examinations.
2. Hospitalization and surgery are financed by the State Commission for the Blind.
3. Glasses. The State Commission for the Blind secures glasses at special rates from wholesale optical companies for local agencies and Lions Clubs. Glasses are paid for

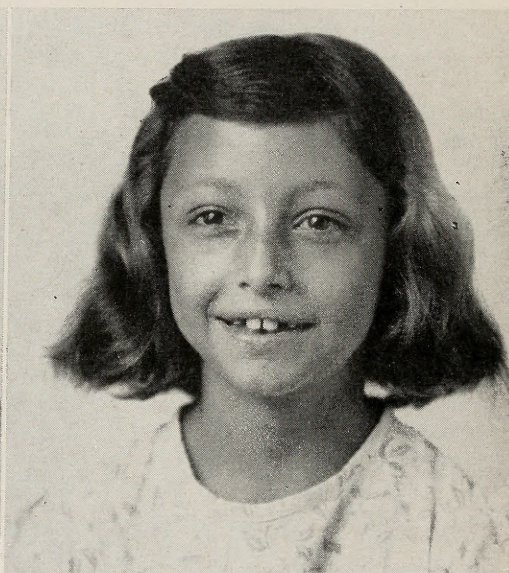
locally by the North Carolina State Association for the Blind, Lions Clubs and from other local resources.

4. Sight Saving Classes are sponsored by the Medical Division.

The Chart, Appendix II, reveals data on the 58,678 indigent persons examined by eye physicians during the biennium; data given by counties.

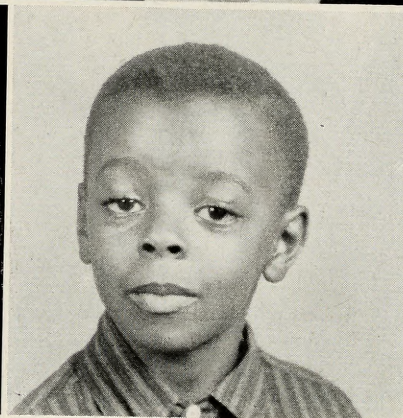
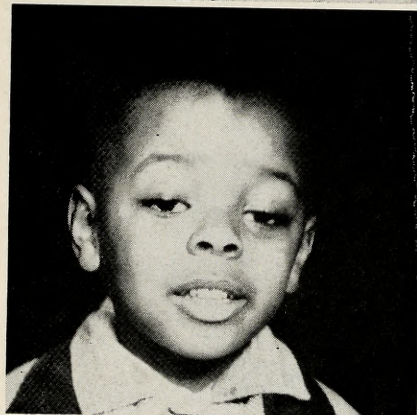
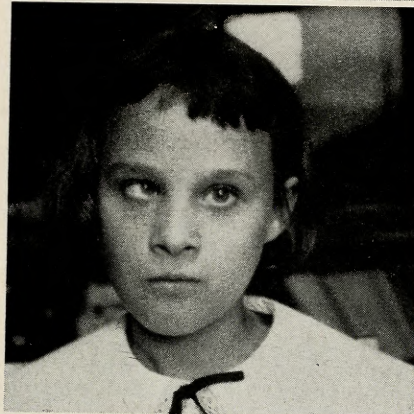
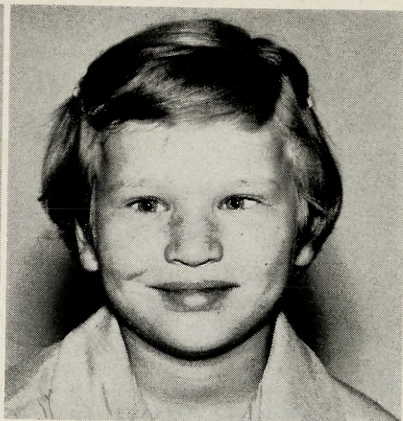


Before

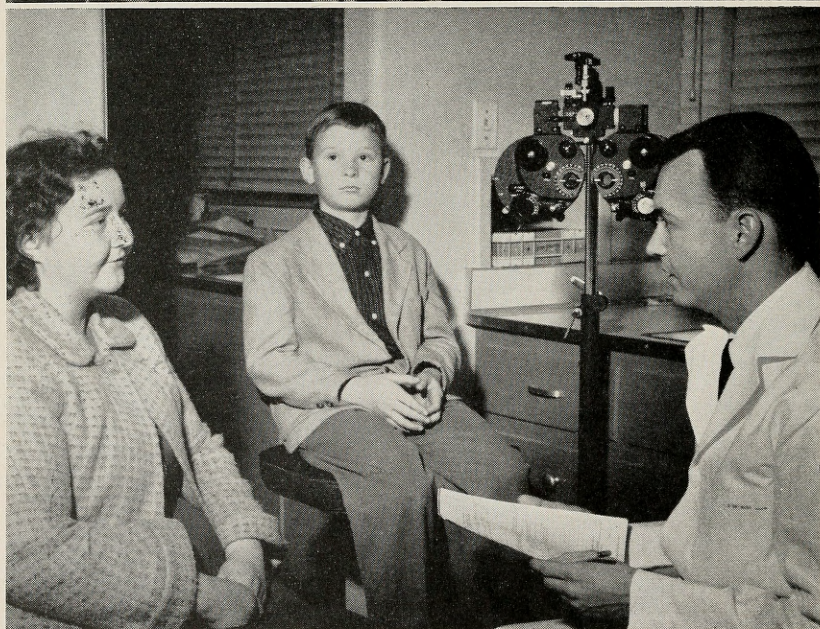
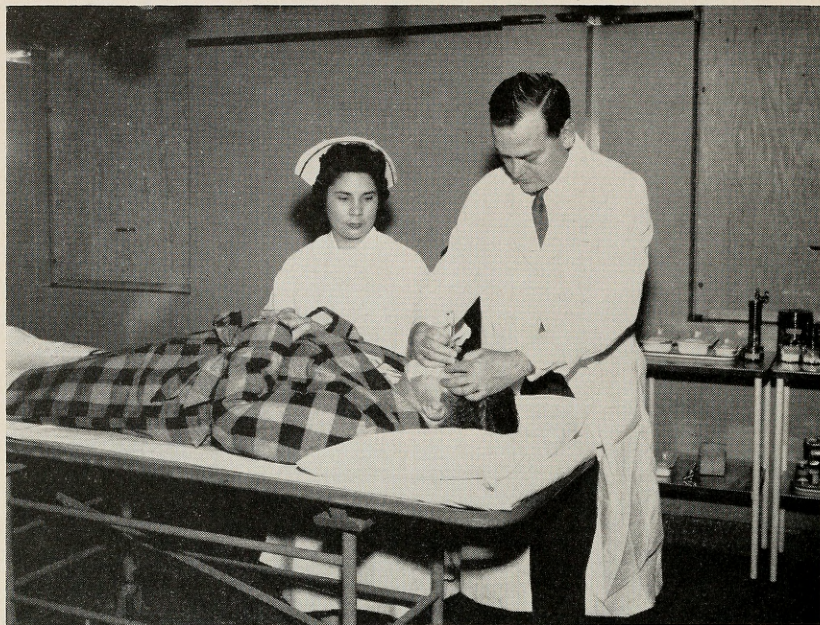


SURGERY

After



1 & 2. Before and After Squint Surgery. 3. Before and After Surgery for Ptosis



*Testing for Glaucoma in a Group Eye Clinic.
The Physician Advising the Mother of the Eye Condition of her Son Who
Was Seen in a Group Clinic.*



Blind Children Are Taught the Use of Joyous Excitement of Toys at the Summer Institutes for Mothers of Pre-School Blind Children.

SERVICES FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

The Medical and Social Service Divisions offer special services to North Carolina pre-school children. These services include:

General Medical Examinations

Medical Eye Examinations

Eye Surgery and Treatment

Medical Eye Care Follow-up

Consultation

Home visits by the Case Workers:

To work with the parents to accept their child as blind and to work for relationships that will enable the child to develop and mature to a normal, useful adult

To encourage parents to take advantage of educational opportunities for their child

To obtain educational materials and toys

To use the Talking Book Machines

To accept medical eye care which may improve vision

Participation in the Joint School Health Program

Referral to Sight Saving Classes
 Referral to the State School for the Blind

Services to the Pre-School Child:

Eye Examinations
 Surgery
 Treatment

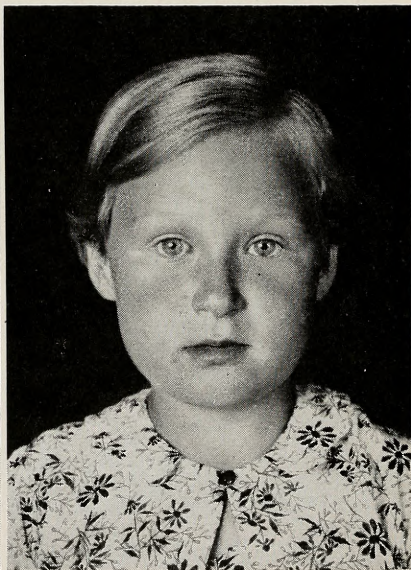
PRE-SCHOOL OPERATIVE SERVICES—1958-60
 (Age—Birth through 5)

Squint Operations	119
Congenital Glaucoma	31
Congenital Cataracts	39
Enucleations	13
Chalazions Removed	2
Ptosis	9
Treatment and other defects	84
Total	297

MADeline P. McCrary
Public Information Officer



Before



Squint Surgery

After

REHABILITATION DIVISION

Rehabilitation is the restoration of disabled persons to the fullest physical, mental, vocational, and economic usefulness of which they are capable. Rehabilitation has proved its worth not only to the individual but to the taxpayer.

Rehabilitation accepts a man as he is; and through various services, such as counseling, guidance, physical restoration, adjustment and vocational training, prepares him for and places him in employment.

The economic value of rehabilitation to the individual and to the nation can be measured by the dollar standard, but the social values gained by the individual and society cannot be evaluated. Rehabilitation gives a new life to the handicapped person who in turn makes his contribution to his community, his state and his nation. Rehabilitation can change his status from a recipient of tax funds to an employed person paying taxes.

The Rehabilitation Program of the Commission for the Blind, with its multiple services, is carried out through the following five co-ordinated major units:

1. Six district offices providing case finding, counseling and guidance, physical restoration, vocational training, placement and other indicated services required in preparing blind people for employment.
2. The Rehabilitation Center for the Blind providing adjustment to blindness and pre-vocational training for newly blinded adults.
3. Six workshops providing training for self-employment and jobs for blind people in need of sheltered employment.
4. Home Industries providing training for the blind people in the production of saleable articles made in the home and creating sales outlets for these products.
5. Bureau of Employment for the Blind providing training and employment in vending stand operation.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES

BRITT L. GREEN, *Supervisor*

Rehabilitation of the handicapped is not new, but there has been a growing emphasis on the program since 1943 and a marked increase in the number of persons rehabilitated. Rehabilitation goes back to the closing months of World War I when manpower problems were acute and disabled veterans were returning to civilian life.

Since the beginning of vocational rehabilitation in 1920, the program has undergone many changes to meet the demands of a growing number of individuals in need of the services. In 1954 amendments to the Federal Rehabilitation Act, Public Law 565, were enacted, which provided the legal and financial framework for major expansions of the Rehabilitation program. Under the provisions of this law more Federal funds became available to the states to broaden the scope and basis of the program.

Vocational rehabilitation for blind persons in North Carolina provides counseling and guidance, physical restoration, adjustment and vocational training, placement and post placement services to all visually impaired persons who have not been able to achieve employment through the normal and routine channels of the business, industrial, and professional world. Through the utilization of these services by the Vocational Rehabilitation Department, many visually impaired North Carolina citizens have been placed in remunerative employment.

Vocational rehabilitation involves many processes. The most important of these are:

- Case finding
- Counseling and guidance
- Training
- Placement
- Post placement supervision

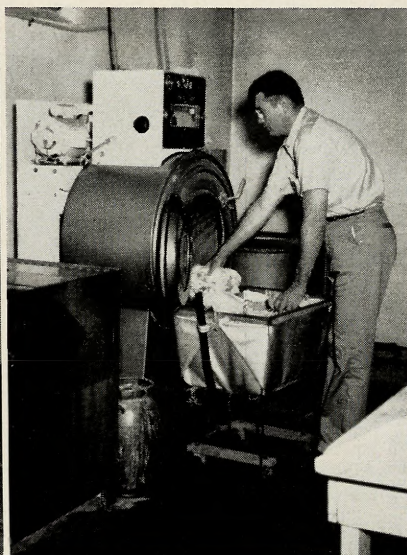
Case finding: All the services available to the visually impaired cannot be provided until the person has been found. The first job of rehabilitation is to find the individual so that he may accept or reject the services that are offered. After a person is found, he must be interviewed and a complete evaluation made in order to determine whether he has rehabilitation potentialities. Rehabilitation looks at the Total Man in the light of his employability: physical ability to work, mental and educational ability to learn, personality adequate to hold a job, and skill to produce a service which someone is willing to purchase.

Counseling and guidance: The aim of vocational counseling is to guide the client in his choice of a suitable employment objective, in planning his preparation for such employment and in achieving those attitudes which will bring success and satisfaction in his job. Counseling is based on an understanding of the "whole" individual with individual differences and the fact that the client is the one to be served. It is he who is to be made self-maintaining by the processes of rehabilitation. Every effort is made to remove or to meliorate his handicap. After a client has been accepted by the counselor, the possibility of physical restoration is the first rehabilitation service considered. The role of the counselor in rehabilitation is most important. He is dealing with a human life, and only counselors trained in the techniques of the rehabilitation processes should be entrusted with so great a task.

Training: When an employment objective has been determined, a plan is set up to provide necessary training, such as adjustment to blindness, stand operation, workshop, and industry and professional occupations requiring college degrees. The counselor is responsible for the type and quality of training secured. He keeps constant watch to see that the client receives training which will fit him for remunerative employment.



Visually Impaired Young Woman Was Trained by Rehabilitation as a Transcriptionist and Is Now Employed in a Private Agency.



Visually Impaired Man Was Trained and Furnished Equipment by Rehabilitation. He Now Operates a Successful Drive-In Laundry.

Placement: Rehabilitation processes must lead to employment—the ultimate goal of all rehabilitation aims—job placement which will allow the handicapped individual to use all of his abilities and to achieve the highest development of which he is capable. Through the years, it has been generally conceded that blind people are capable of working and earning a living. Finding new and better employment opportunities for blind people is a challenge to the rehabilitation worker and the mutual responsibility of a progressive society.

Post placement supervision: The last major step in the rehabilitation process is post placement supervision. After a blind person has been placed, he needs guidance and supervision to some degree to insure continuing progress. The rehabilitation counselor visits the blind person at regular intervals as long as necessary.

STATISTICS ON THE 800 BLIND PERSONS REHABILITATED INTO EMPLOYMENT. PERIOD JULY 1, 1958, THROUGH JUNE 30, 1960

Number of Males	415
Number of Females	385
Number of White	551
Number of Negro	247
Number of Indian	2
Average Education at Survey	6.5
Average Age when Accepted for Rehabilitation Services	46.1
Average number of Months Cases were Serviced by Rehabilitation	21.8
Average number of Months in Vocational Training (124 persons)	8.1
Average Cost of Case Services (does not include administration)	\$742.08
Average Weekly Wage when Accepted as a Rehabilitation Client	\$ 8.95
Average Weekly Wage when Closed as Employed and Rehabilitated	\$ 30.45

STATISTICS ON THE OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS OF THE 800 BLIND PERSONS REHABILITATED. PERIOD JULY 1, 1958, THROUGH JUNE 30, 1960

Type of Job	Number	Per Cent
Professional and Semi-Professional	37	4.6
Managerial and Sales	137	17.1
Farmers	74	9.2
Skilled Workers	24	3.0
Semi-Skilled Workers	95	11.9
Unskilled Workers	139	17.4
Service Jobs	24	3.0
Craft Workers	10	1.3
Homemakers and Family Workers	260	32.5
Totals	800	100

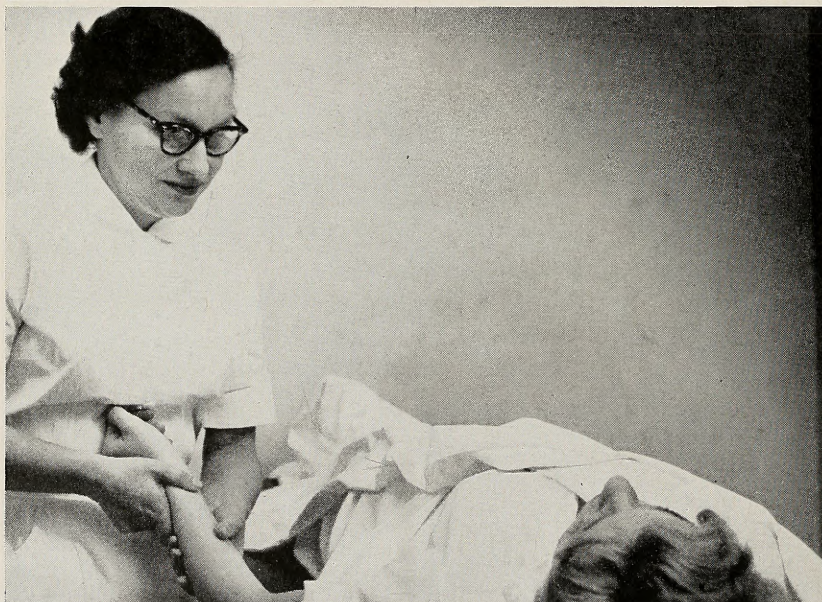
MADELINE P. MCCRARY
Public Information Officer



Visually Impaired Man Was Trained by Rehabilitation and Established in a Small Store.



Blind Man Was Trained by Rehabilitation and Assisted in Setting Up a Feeder Pig Project.

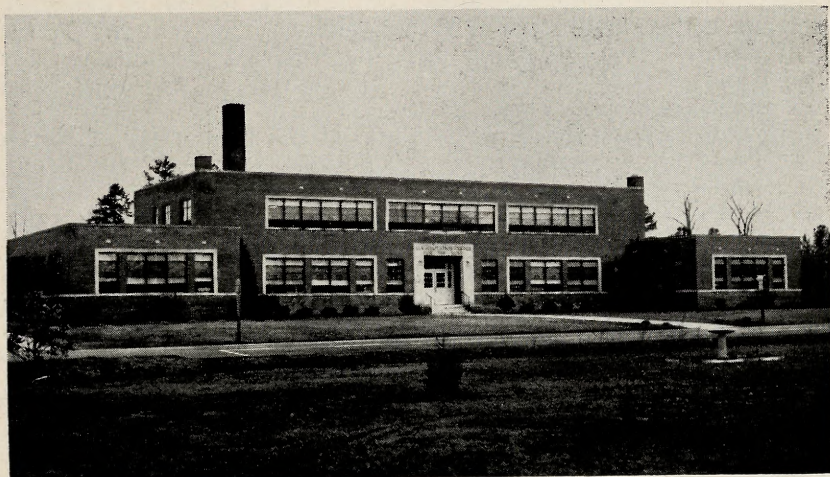


All of These Visually Impaired Persons Were Trained and Assisted by Rehabilitation:

1. X-Ray Technician, Rex Hospital, Raleigh; 2. Employed in Furniture Factory; 3. Employed as a Masseuse in a Health Club, Charlotte.

THE NORTH CAROLINA REHABILITATION CENTER

HELEN CUTTING, *Superintendent*



*Administration Building and Dormitories, Rehabilitation Center,
Butner, N. C.*

The North Carolina Rehabilitation Center, created by legislative enactment in 1945, has been in operation since November 1945. The establishment of a Rehabilitation Center for adult blind persons fulfilled an essential need for a more adequate program of rehabilitation services. Orientation and adjustment to blindness are basic to all training for the adult blind who are seeking employment. The Center provides this basic training as well as many pre-vocational courses.

After several temporary locations, the Center moved into a permanent building on State property at Butner, North Carolina, in 1952. The funds for staff houses were made available by the General Assembly of 1953, and were completed in 1956.

In 1959 funds were granted for the construction of two additional dormitory wings. The construction of these units is now underway.

Funds for the erection of a multi-purpose building for the Center were requested in 1959; the request for these funds was included in a state-wide bond referendum and was approved. Plans for this project have been completed, and construction will soon be started.

Each addition to the physical facilities at the Center results in more adequate services to adult blind persons and becomes an important factor in achieving the goal of employment.

Dependent upon available space, the Center has always admitted a limited number of out-of-state students. This biennium was no exception, and students from other states were enrolled.

Many other states do not provide Rehabilitation Centers for the Blind that offer as an inclusive program as the North Carolina Rehabilitation Center.

The Center has numerous visits from representatives of agencies, schools, colleges and student nursing classes. This year the Center had visitors from the following: The American Foundation for the Blind; Office of Vocational Rehabilitation; Guiding Eyes for the Blind, New York; Seeing Eye, Inc, New Jersey; New York Institute for the Blind; student at the University of North Carolina from Yugoslavia; National Agency for Deaf and Blind, Guatemala City, Central America; college classes; student nurses, etc. Some of these came to visit, some made a study of the training offered at the Center for the Blind.

The Center has been the recipient of many valuable contributions during this period, some of these include: A caption over the main doorway, "Rehabilitation Center for the Blind," installed by the Butner Lions Club; two new pianos, one for each recreation room and shrubbery contributed by the North Carolina State Association for the Blind; replacement of worn out entry walks by friends and materials at cost from a construction firm; a lovely mantel in one recreation room, with antique candle holders and an oil painting by the Westwood Garden Club of Durham; and topsoil hauled in, then prepared and grass sown in the park area by friends.

"The Fragrance Garden" originated by Mrs. W. F. Francks, and the Garden Clubs of Durham, and sponsored by The North Carolina Garden Club, Inc., grows more beautiful each year and affords more pleasure to the students. The most recent additions to the Garden are low, flowering hedges, two more raised flower beds, and a fountain. This is a continuing State wide project; and as the years pass, will be one of the outstanding gardens in North Carolina.

The Lions Clubs in the vicinity of the Center come to the Center often, and some Clubs from a distance also make visits. A visit to the Center is the best interpretation of what really happens when a blind person enters as a trainee or student and pursues the training courses. It is impossible to describe the changes that take place, but it is most gratifying to see that same student finish his training at the Center and either enter vocational training or employment.

The basic courses at the Center are well established; however, new ones are initiated as the need arises. An example of an unmet need resulted in a new course which is designed to furnish training for homemakers who cannot leave their homes for an extended period of training. These persons needed training and were eager to secure it but were not able to take the usual courses offered at the Center. The new course concentrates on essentials such as travel, housekeeping, sewing, cooking, laundry courses, home nursing and first aid courses. It is felt that this training will result in better homemakers and in some instances will allow others in the family to find outside employment.

The other regular courses include: 1. Orientation to the physical setup of the Center and its surroundings, 2. travel techniques, 3. adjustment, 4. continuation of counseling, 5. psychological tests and measurements, 6. personality adjustment, 7. stand training and employment practices, 8. basic courses in personal hygiene, table etiquette and demands of daily living, 9. home economics and housekeeping, 10. academic courses such as English, spelling, arithmetic, Braille, typing and transcription, 11. craft courses, 12. sewing, 13. shop work, 14. household mechanics, 15. laundry courses, and 16. cooking classes.

The following are the statistics on this biennial period:

STATISTICS—July 1, 1958-June 30, 1960 on Students at the Rehabilitation Center.

Total Number of Students:	209	Sources of Support When	
Number of Counties		Student Enrolled at Center:	
Represented	63	Family	121
Average Age	27	Wage	18
Average Education	9.9	Public Relief	47
Males	123	Compensation	6
Females	86	Other	17
White	110	Previous Employment:	
Negro	99	Teacher	2
Rural	104	Contractor	2
Urban	105	Proctor	1
Single	115	Secretarial	1
Married	55	Clerical	7
Other	39	Clerk	3
Average Number of Months		Sales	4
at the Rehabilitation		Managerial	2
Center	4.1	Inspector	1
Age at Onset of Blindness:		Farmer	8
0-5	116	Textile	7
6-18	16	Service Job	9
19-29	17	Domestic	11
30-44	40	Laborer:	
45-65	20	Semi-skilled	3
Causes of Blindness:		Unskilled	48
(Multiple in some cases)		Piano Tuner	1
Disease	190	Homemaker	8
Accident	9	Family Worker	5
Congenital	86	Practical Nurse	2
Inherited	19	Truck Driver	1
Degree of Vision at Present:		Odd Jobs	8
Total Blindness—Both Eyes	32	None	75
Blind One Eye—Partial		Number Employed	49
Vision Other	40	Number in Training	73
Partial Vision Each Eye	137	Number Unemployed	85
		Left State	2

Types of Employment of the 49 employed:		Seamstress	1
		Sales	1
Stand Operator	8	Crafts	2
Instructor	1	Church Singer	1
Masseur	1	Laborer:	
Merchant	8	Semi-skilled	2
Managerial	1	Unskilled	3
X Ray Technician	1	Service Job	2
Clerk	2	Homemaker	8
		Family Worker	7

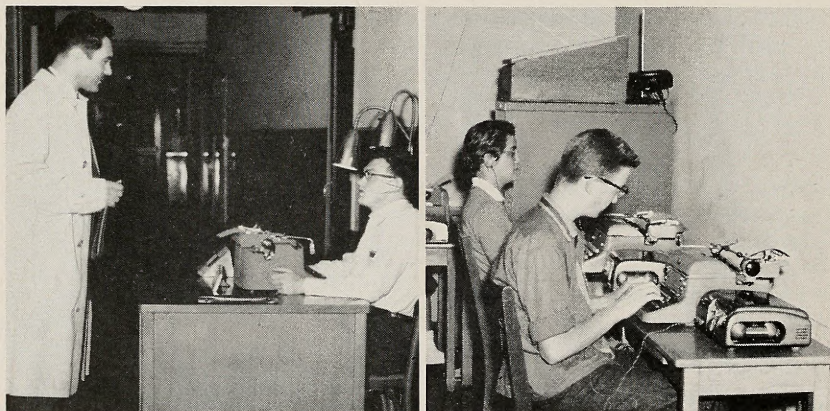
In the 1956-58 *Biennial* we presented statistics on the employment status of the 163 students who attended the Center during this period. In June 1960 we did a follow-up study which disclosed these facts:

June 1958-June 1960

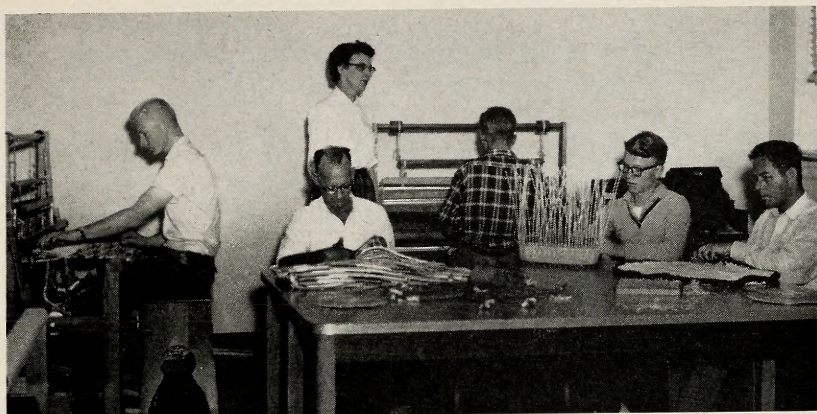
Number of Students:	163	
	1958	1960
Number Employed:	41	98
Number in Training:	62	16
Number Unemployed:	57	36
Left State:	2	6
Transfer to Other Agency:	1	1
Deceased:	0	6

Results of this study showed that many more students had been placed in employment and we feel that this fact is evidence that the training offered at the Center is a positive factor in a total Rehabilitation Program.

MADELINE P. MCCRARY
Public Information Officer



Students Handle the "Information Desk" at the Center; Instruction in Courses in Transcribing.



Scenes at the Center:

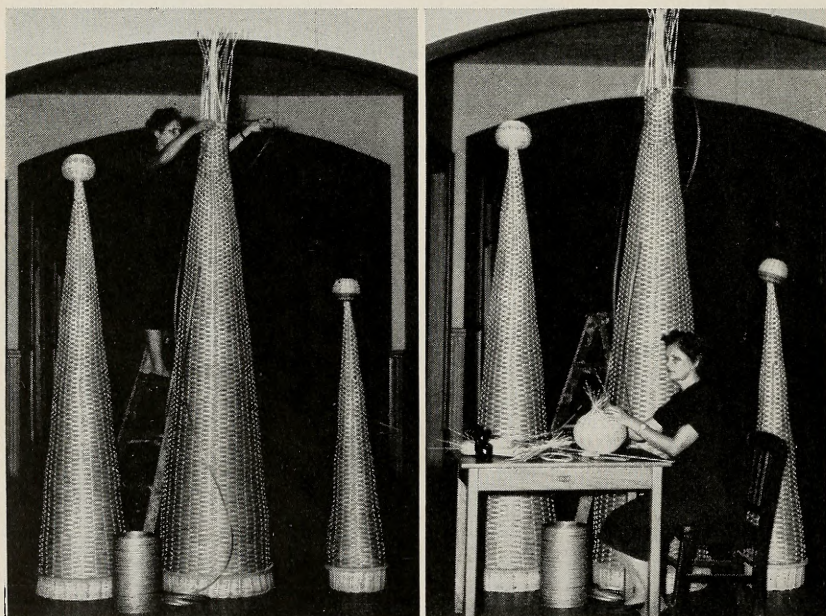
1. Students in Craft Class; 2. Home Economics and Home Making Class; 3. Stand Training and Management.

INDUSTRIES FOR THE BLIND

IRENE BEAUDIN, *Supervisor*
Home Industries and Workshops

The primary purpose of the Home Industries Department in the Commission's Rehabilitation Program is to provide remunerative occupation in the home for visually handicapped persons who for reasons other than blindness cannot accept or find employment elsewhere.

Generally speaking, the negative employment factors that classify a person as home bound are: family obligations, multiple disabilities, geographical isolation, psychological reasons and advanced age. Experience has shown that the economic returns from home industry employment, while of considerable importance, are often overshadowed by the satisfaction that can come only from work and the feeling of being capable of accomplishment in some field of endeavor. Hence, the aim of the Home Industry Program is to provide services to as many blind persons as possible who are feasible and capable of producing saleable articles. A great deal of time and considerable ingenuity are often needed to insure that each referral for home industry service is given every opportunity to prove feasibility before services are denied.



This Was the Largest Order Ever Undertaken by Home Industries. This Young Woman Produced This Work of Art Which Can Be Seen in the Charlottetown Mall Shopping Center, Charlotte.

The Home Industries Counselors in collaboration with the Rehabilitation Counselors are responsible for raw materials, training, equipment and other services leading to employment. The basic cost for these services are paid from Rehabilitation funds. The North Carolina State Association for the Blind has made it possible to expand the Home Industry Program by providing funds for legitimate services where no other monies are available. This cooperation insures a sound state-wide program for home bound visually impaired persons.

The department was understaffed during this biennium because of the impossibility of recruiting personnel. Two Home Industries Counselors serviced a case load of 150 visually impaired persons residing in all parts of the State.

The Counselors made 1,700 visits into the homes of these visually impaired persons to establish eligibility and feasibility, to initiate and supervise training and production of saleable articles. Even after productivity has been achieved, the Counselors continue supervisory contacts with most workers to supply materials, to suggest new ideas, and to insure the quality and sale of finished merchandise.

About 50% of the 150 persons working under supervision are earning a part or all of their living and some of them earn sufficient income to qualify for Social Security benefits. It is difficult to ascertain the approximate income of home industry workers because of their various stages of productivity. Some workers have developed skill and ingenuity to such a degree that they can produce and sell their own merchandise, others must sell through the outlets provided by the program.

State-wide publicity through the media of newspapers, TV, radio and talks made by the staff and Lions, resulted in excellent



Totally Blind Woman Does Expert Re-seating of Antique Pieces, Raleigh.

publicity for the program and sales of articles made by the home bound persons.

Many years ago, the North Carolina State Association for the Blind provided the department a revolving fund. This fund enabled the blind persons to be paid for a saleable article when it was finished. This was the first step toward a greatly enlarged Home Industry Program and the motivation for greater production by the workers. Before the revolving fund, the Counselors picked up the saleable articles but the producer had to wait for payment until the merchandise was sold through various sales.

Lions Clubs, Lionesses and some other civic groups, sponsored 75 sales during this biennium. These sales last from a day to 5 days and are held in towns, county fairs, etc. The total sales amounted to \$25,000.00 during this biennium.

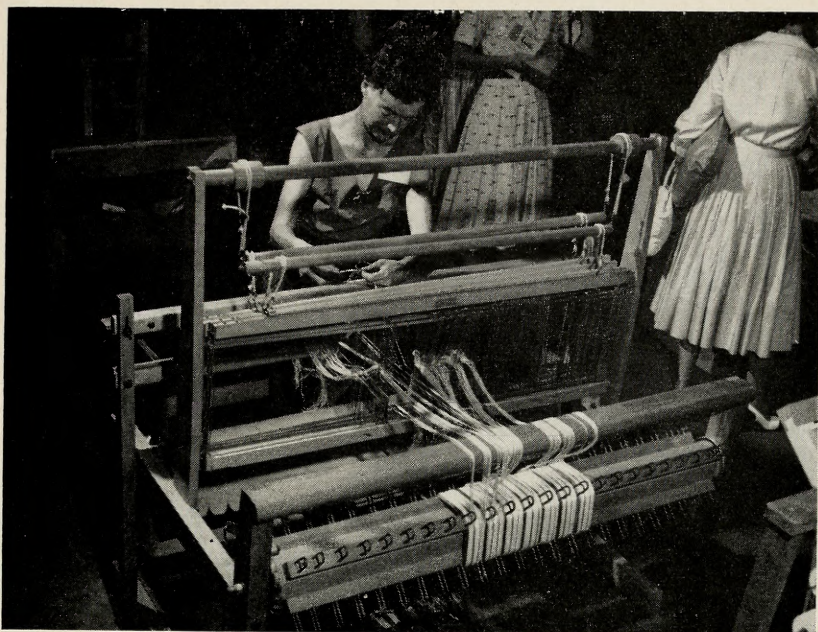
There were 2 sales of significant importance: one, The Craftsman's Exposition, Asheville, and the other at The State Fair in Raleigh. The State Association and Lions Clubs paid the expenses of 4 blind workers to The Craftsman's Fair. These workers demonstrated the arts of weaving, basketry, wood carving and chair reseating and many hundreds of visitors actually watched the creative ability of visually impaired persons for the first time. The workers not only gained financially, but made contacts with expert craftsmen in their field.

The other event, The State Fair booth, was made possible by the generosity of the North Carolina State Fair Association. The Fair Association provided an excellent location for the booth and the Lions and their Ladies of Wake County Lions Clubs manned the booth. Thousands of visitors stopped at the booth to look at the attractive merchandise and purchased it. The proceeds of this sale amounted to almost \$1,000.00.

There was another important feature of this period, an opportunity to demonstrate the creative skills of home industry workers. Through the interest of Mr. Lewis Clark, Professor in the School of Design, State College, a project was submitted to Home Industries to weave hugh bird cage roofs for the Charlotte-town Mall. These motifs were produced and accepted for the Mall. If artists and designers would give the Home Industry Department similar opportunities, it would be a wonderful incentive to the highly skilled workers to use their creative abilities and would offer new fields of employment.

The Department is indebted to several industries for their generous donations of raw materials, among these are Tomilson's of High Point, Fieldcrest, Lilly Mills, Penland School of Handicrafts and others who desire to remain anonymous.

The program of Home Industries is an economic aid to home bound visually impaired persons; but more important, it is a challenge to them to develop and use their creative abilities to achieve personal satisfaction.



Young Woman Trained by Rehabilitation, Produces Exquisite Hand Loomed Articles; Blind Man Demonstrates Basket Making at Craftsman's Fair, Asheville.

WORKSHOPS

A new workshop was opened during this period, The Richmond County Industries for the Blind. This brought the workshops total to six.

These shops employed an average of 106 blind and visually impaired operators at an average weekly wage of \$33.72. Several shops gave a bonus at Christmas amounting to \$9,441.00. Fringe benefits for the workers include paid vacations, sick leave, hospital insurance, low cost group life insurance, Social Security and Workmen's Compensation.

The last quarter (April-June 1960) of the biennium revealed these facts: average number of visually impaired workers employed 108; average weekly wage \$36.16.

The shops have not received as many Federal orders as in the previous biennium but production and sales have shown steady increases.

The Industries for the Blind, Greensboro, completed another addition to its plant. The Charlotte Workshop has made plans for an addition, and the Industries for the Blind, Winston-Salem, has made progress since the shop moved to the new location with the Good Will Industries.

These six supervised workshops provide training and employment for blind and visually impaired persons who would not be able to find employment in private enterprises. However, after training, many workshop employees are able to take their places in industry and other private enterprises.

The six workshops have modern equipment comparable to that in private industries. This equipment was furnished by the State Commission for the Blind.

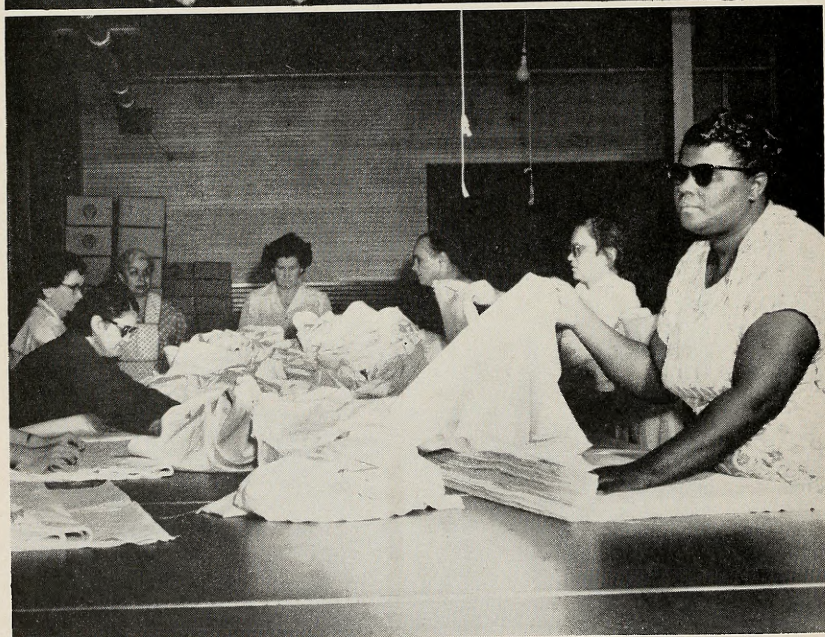
Mr. C. G. Harrell, Manager of The Lions Workshop for the Blind, Durham, was presented the annual award to an individual for his outstanding work with handicapped persons. This award was presented by The Honorable Luther H. Hodges, Governor of North Carolina, for the State of North Carolina Employ The Handicapped Commission. (See picture page 2.)



Home Industries Display and Demonstration Booth at Craftsman's Fair, Asheville, N. C.



*Making Mattresses, Richmond Industries for the Blind
Rockingham, N. C.*



Labeling and Packaging Articles for Store Rocks Sale, Industries for the Blind, Greensboro.

Making Food Handling Aprons, Charlotte Workshop for the Blind.

NORTH CAROLINA BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE BLIND

W. J. STRICKLAND, *Supervisor*

The Bureau, an auxiliary division of the North Carolina State Commission for the Blind, was created by statute to provide and maintain employment opportunities for blind individuals who were able to work but unable to find suitable employment in today's highly competitive field. Pursuant to law, an advisory board to this Bureau was established to assist in formulating policies, rules, regulations and practices which would insure the operation of a successful Business Enterprise Program. This advisory board is made up of businessmen who have had wide and varied experience in the field of merchandising and its related techniques.

The Bureau, more commonly known and recognized as the Vending Stand Program, has a dual responsibility to the Agency and its many clients. The first, is to find locations and establish stands whereby blind persons can successfully be employed. Secondly, and of equal importance, is to provide training and subsequent placement in either Bureau supervised stands or as independent merchants under the supervision of the Rehabilitation Division of the Commission for the Blind. During the training period, the trainee is taught the techniques of merchandising, display, buying and selling; and the record keeping required in the operation of small business enterprises.

During this biennium, 38 blind and/or visually handicapped persons were accepted for training by the Bureau. Twenty-nine (29) of these persons successfully completed training and were employed by the Bureau.

New industry locating within the state has made it possible for the Bureau to increase employment opportunities for blind persons. Industrial plants have looked with favor upon our Program and have granted concession privileges to us for the establishment of In-Plant Food Service Units which make possible the employment of one or more blind persons. The Bureau now operates In-Plant Food Service Units in 53 North Carolina industrial plants.

At the close of the biennial period June 30, 1960, the Bureau was operating ninety-one (91) stands, employing ninety-five (95) blind operators at an average weekly salary of \$36.00. During this biennium the earnings of blind operators totaled \$330,395.00. In addition to these earnings, the Bureau provided its blind operators the following fringe benefits: free hospital insurance coverage, paid vacations, accumulative sick leave, Unemployment Compensation, Workmen's Compensation and Social Security coverage. The Bureau, through group coverage, is able to overcome the prohibitive life insurance rate charged

blind people and offers its operators the opportunity to secure insurance at a low group premium rate.

Due to the success of established vending machine routes, these routes being established in locations not feasible for an attendant type service, it was possible this biennium to pay our operators \$10,065.00 as a bonus. These bonus payments were paid on a "length of service" basis ranging from \$40.00 for employees with less than a year's service to \$200.00 for employees with more than 10 years' service.

The members of the Commission for the Blind and the members of the Bureau of Employment for the Blind express their appreciation to the Lions Clubs of North Carolina, the North Carolina State Association for the Blind, the North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development, the General Services Division of the State Government, the General Services Administration of the United States Government, and other state, county and municipal officials, labor and management and thousands of interested citizens for their cooperation in making the Commission's Vending Stand Program a success.



In-Plant Food Service Unit Located in Filatex Corporation, Waxhaw, North Carolina.



In-Plant Food Service Units, 1. Ruth Originals, Asheville; 2. Stately Lady Nitewear, Charlotte; 3. Bell's Buying Center, Charlotte.

CO-OPERATION FROM OTHER AGENCIES, GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS

The data presented in this report have shown the assistance and co-operation received by the North Carolina State Commission for the Blind from the Federal Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the County Boards of Commissioners, County Welfare Departments, the County Health Departments, the Lions Clubs, County Associations for the Blind, and the North Carolina State Association for the Blind. It should again be emphasized that the blind and visually impaired people of North Carolina have reaped the benefits of this interest and assistance and that the North Carolina Commission has been able to expand its services as a result of this co-operation.

There are other groups and individuals who have made contributions to work for the blind. The majority of these have already been mentioned but because of the significance of the contribution, recognition is again given:

EYE PHYSICIANS—North Carolina is most fortunate in having eye physicians located in the various sections of the State who are giving unsparingly of their time and skill to prevent blindness, and wherever possible to conserve sight and to restore vision. These eye physicians give to the needy cases recommended to their care the same highly skilled, professional services received by private patients. Without the very fine co-operation and unselfishness of these eye physicians, it would be impossible to have a program of prevention in North Carolina. The Commission is also indebted to the many private physicians who give treatment to persons referred for general medical attention by the eye physicians. Since the eye is often called "a thermometer to bodily conditions," many eye difficulties of patients are the result of disease or abnormal conditions in other parts of the body. A large number of indigent persons with defective vision coming under the care of the Commission have diseases of the blood vessels, kidneys, brain or other parts of the body which are first discovered by eye physicians. Diseased tonsils and other bodily infections in children are often the cause of impaired vision. These conditions, if not detected by an eye physician and corrected, may weaken the efficiency not only of the eye but of other vital organs of the body.

OTHER GROUPS

The State Federation of Women's Clubs as well as individual Woman's Clubs have contributed many services to the blind as a part of their general program. The Lionesses contribute personal services to blind persons, as well as assist in selling articles made by the home bound blind. The North Carolina Garden Club, Inc., has sponsored the first "Fragrance Garden" in the State for blind students at the Rehabilitation Center, Butner,

North Carolina. This project is a continuing one and grows in beauty each year.

The State Department of Public Welfare, The State Board of Health, the County Schools and Health Officials, the Department of Conservation and Development, Chambers of Commerce, the local private welfare agencies and hospitals have all given valuable assistance in the development of services for the blind. The State School for the Blind has cooperated splendidly with the Commission in the development of a joint program.

Rotary, Kiwanis, American Business Men's Clubs, the Variety Clubs, Exchange Clubs, P. T. A.'s and other organizations have participated in the work for the blind program on a community level.

The following organizations outside the State have aided the Commission for the Blind: the American Foundation for the Blind, the National Industries for the Blind, the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, The Seeing Eye, Inc., the National Rehabilitation Association, and the American Printing House for the Blind.

REQUESTED INCREASES IN APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 1961-62 and 1962-63

The members of the North Carolina State Commission for the Blind appreciate the difficult problems of state financing confronting the Advisory Budget Commission. The Commission is equally aware that it is responsible under law for administering all governmentally sponsored services for the blind citizens of our State with the one exception, the North Carolina State School for the Blind.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Increases in Aid to the Blind Case Load—Payments to Needy Blind

On January 7, 1960, the Commission for the Blind submitted a PROJECTION OF CASE LOAD AND AVERAGE MONTHLY PAYMENT FOR AID TO THE BLIND for 1961-63. On January 14, 1960, the Commission was advised by the Assistant Director and Budget Officer that the Budget Commission had approved the projected case load submitted, and authorized the Commission to proceed with the construction of its "A" Budget based upon these projections. In accordance with this authorization and on the basis of a conference held with Mr. Coltrane on April 21, 1960, we are requesting an increase in State Funds of \$17,346 for the first year of the biennium and \$34,994 for the second year of the biennium. These additional funds will be required to take care of an estimated increase in the case load of 75 recipients per year and the estimated average monthly payment increase of \$1.00 for each year of the biennium.

The Commission justifies its case load and average monthly payment of the following facts:

(1) *Increase in Number of Aid to Blind Recipients*

40% of all blindness is caused by bodily diseases. Older people are more susceptible to bodily diseases. 45.78% of the blind population of North Carolina is 65 years of age and over. It is not possible to rehabilitate these aged blind people; therefore, they are dependent upon resources other than their own for their basic economic needs. Our records show that the increase in the number of Aid to the Blind recipients was rapid for the period from July 1, 1944 through June 30, 1958. For the past 18 months period this trend in the increase in the number of Aid to the Blind recipients has somewhat leveled off. We feel this situation can be attributed to the progress made in the Commission's programs of Medical Eye Care, Rehabilitation, and extended benefits from Old Age and Survivors Insurance Programs. In spite of all of these favorable factors, the number of aged blind people requiring assistance continues to show a slight increase. Based upon an analysis of all factors involved, the Commission feels justified in the minimum estimated increase of 75 recipients per year—this is less than one per county.

(2) *Increase in Average Monthly Payments*

Many factors have caused a gradual increase in average monthly payments. One of these is increased budgetary needs such as having to move residence to higher rental areas or moving from the home of a relative who has furnished shelter free and cost of food increases. Another important factor is aged blind recipients who have no family to care for them being placed in boarding homes. Cost of boarding home care averages approximately \$130 per month. Other factors are decreases in the resources of persons in the home, decreased resources of recipients or persons making contributions to recipients, decrease in recipients' earnings and increase in recipients' medical needs. Our request for an annual increase of \$1.00 for each year of the biennium will require State Funds totaling \$10,986 for the first year of the biennium and \$22,207 for the second year.

Increases in Hospitalization for Aid to the Blind Recipients

The Commission for the Blind's hospitalization program for Aid to the Blind recipients has only been in effect since October 1958. In this short a period of time, our experience is so limited that we cannot be sure of the average number of annual days of hospitalization required per recipient. During the period since October 1958, the number of average days has increased

from one day annually to 1.95 days per recipient. We feel our request for an annual average of 2 days per recipient for each year of the biennium is conservative. Effective July 1, 1961, counties will assume 17.5% of the cost of hospitalization for Aid to the Blind recipients. This county participation will result in a reduction of required State Funds for the first year of the biennium of \$16,692 and a reduction in the second year of the biennium of \$16,429. This is a total decrease in State Funds required for hospitalization of Aid to the Blind recipients for the biennium of \$33,121.

Increases in Case Services to Blind Persons

The Commission's *Medical Program* of the Prevention of Blindness, the Conservation of Sight and the Restoration of Vision has paid gratifying dividends in the general welfare of indigent visually impaired persons. The Commission feels it cannot stress too greatly the need for programs that prevent blindness, that conserve even limited vision and restore loss of vision. To prevent blindness, conserve and restore sight means keeping persons off assistance rolls and enables them to continue as taxpayers instead of tax consumers.

The Commission's *Rehabilitation Program* has justified in dollars and cents alone the expenditures made in putting blind people to work. Not only does physical restoration and placement in employment have such a tremendous value to the blind persons involved, but it enables them to attain their rightful place in society as wage earners who can assume total responsibility for themselves and their families, and adds to the general economy of the entire State as well.

Examinations

The Commission's Medical Program includes the establishment of eye clinics which serve from one to 5 counties. Lions Clubs and the State Association for the Blind have provided funds to purchase equipment needed in these continuing clinics. They have also provided offices for these clinics. Referrals of school children to these clinics continue to increase. The Commission feels that indigent children of school age who have visual impairments can be detected through these examinations in early stages and can be fitted with corrective lenses and referred for surgery and treatment at a time when maximum prevention of blindness can be obtained. Doctors throughout the State realize the importance of this program and have agreed to furnish these eye examinations at a cost to the State of \$2.00 per examination. The Commission realizes this is but a token payment for these services, yet feels obligated to provide even this small amount to help offset the cost to the doctor of furnishing the Commission for the Blind with detailed reports of the examinations, prescriptions for glasses and follow-up

services. State Funds of \$4,081 for the first year of the biennium and \$5,325 for the second year of the biennium will be required to take care of the increased number of examinations made in eye clinics throughout the State.

Treatment

The increase in the number of eye examinations will result in the need for increases in surgery and treatment of eye diseases. Persons who upon examination are deemed feasible for rehabilitation in most cases require medical treatment to restore them to a state of health which will allow them to be placed into employment after proper training. State Funds of \$3,821 for the first year and \$4,448 for the second year of the biennium will be required to provide for additional treatment and surgery.

Hospitalization

Hospitalization of indigent persons who have eye diseases that can be helped through surgery and treatment continues to increase. Many operations are made on school children for squint. A tremendous amount of surgery is required for cataract removal for elderly persons. State Funds of \$10,627 for the first year and \$15,567 for the second year of the biennium will be required for the increase in the need for hospitalization of indigent visually handicapped persons.

Training Expense

The number of younger blind persons who are feasible for college training, vocational training and on-the-job training continues to increase. An expansion of the facilities at the Rehabilitation Center for the Blind at Butner will result in an increase in the number of newly blinded adults given adjustment training. State Funds of \$1,253 for the first year and \$2,821 for the second year of the biennium will be required for the increase in training of these additional visually handicapped persons.

Maintenance

Additional funds will be required to pay for maintenance of the increased number of persons in training status. State Funds in the amount of \$784 for the first year and \$1,567 for the second year of the biennium will be required.

Placement Equipment

The estimated increase in the number of persons being trained for job placement will require additional placement equipment. This placement equipment is represented by such items as dictaphone units for blind transcriptionists, poultry equipment for broiler projects, drink boxes, counters, adding machines, etc. for persons placed in small businesses

and vending stands. State Funds of \$740 for the first year and \$1,366 for the second year of the biennium will be required for this additional equipment purchased for clients.

Increases in the Cost of Operating the Pre-Conditioning Center for the Blind, Butner, North Carolina

The Commission received an appropriation for the current biennium to enlarge the dormitory facilities to take care of 16 additional students and to construct a Multi-Purpose Building. To meet the needs of the increased student enrollment and to operate the additional capital improvements, additional State Funds of \$2,507 for each year of the biennium will be required.

Increases in Administrative Items

Increases in State Funds are requested for each year of the biennium for the following items: Supplies and Materials \$110; Postage, Telephone and Telegraph \$550; Printing and Binding \$165; Repairs and Alterations \$275; Insurance and Bonding \$173; District Office Rent \$632—Total State Funds required \$1,905. The increase above in the cost of postage and telephone and the amount required for office space to house personnel in 6 District Offices accounts for more than half of the total increases requested for administrative items. The remaining \$723 requested represent normal increases in the cost of other administrative items.

Merit Salary Increments

\$4,650 additional State Funds for the first year of the biennium and \$6,247 for the second year of the biennium are requested to provide Merit Salary Increases.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

The Commission for the Blind is not requesting funds for Capital Improvements for the beinnium of 1961-63.

APPENDIX I
SOCIAL SERVICE DIVISION

Data by geographical regions and counties concerning the blind persons on biennial census report for the period July 1, 1958 through June 30, 1960.

Table No. 1. Data by Geographical Regions and Counties Concerning Blind Persons
Biennial Census Report For the Period—July 1, 1958—June 30, 1960

STATE GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS AND COUNTIES	Total Number (1960)	RACE		SEX	PRESENT AGE										DEGREE OF BLINDNESS		Age at onset of blindness							Source of Support																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
		White	Negro		Totals	Male	Female	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	Total	Blind one eye, partial vision, other	Partial vision both eyes	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	Own earnings and earnings of A.B. and non-minority blind persons of other persons	A.B. and earnings of other persons of other persons	Other type of public and/or private aid																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
North Carolina Grand Total	12,432,156	10,496,426	1,935,730		65,607	68,002	133,609	908	935	1,009	1,000	970	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	22,018	7,085	2,851	109	1,233	1,263	1,270	1,261	1,044	4,225	5,489	2,819																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																</

APPENDIX II
MEDICAL DIVISION

Data on the 58,678 indigent persons examined by Eye Physicians during the past biennium.

APPENDIX III
ACCOUNTING DIVISION

Budgetary Expenditures of the Commission during the Bien-
nium July 1, 1958 through June 30, 1960.

EXPENDITURES FOR 1958-59 and 1959-60
CHAPTER 53, PUBLIC LAWS OF 1953, CODE 16041
CHAPTER 124, PUBLIC LAWS OF 1937

Purposes and/or Objects	Expenditures for 1958-59	Expenditures for 1959-60
I. ADMINISTRATION		
101 Salary-Executive Secretary -----	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 9,499.92
102 Salaries-Staff -----	73,150.52	95,904.40
103 Expense of Commission -----	396.45	321.88
104 Supplies and Materials -----	2,545.76	2,591.48
105 Postage, Tel. & Tel. -----	5,700.00	5,999.92
106 Travel Expense -----	11,805.38	12,574.39
107 Printing & Binding -----	2,496.18	2,399.77
108 Repairs and Alterations -----	1,498.56	1,159.01
109 General Expense -----	46.50	39.50
110 Insurance & Bonding -----	323.60	
111 Equipment -----	3,373.92	5,880.00
112 Merit System Expense -----	1,015.58	881.15
113 Office Rent -----	3,960.00	4,045.00
114 Retirement System -----	10,605.99	12,288.65
115 Moving Expense -----		172.85
TOTAL -----	\$ 126,418.44	\$ 153,757.92
II. AID TO THE BLIND ADMINISTRATION		
201 Salaries -----	\$ 53,265.28	\$ 49,729.65
202 Travel Expense -----	7,977.05	7,145.57
203 Staff Development & Training -----		896.90
TOTAL -----	\$ 61,242.33	\$ 57,772.12
III. REHABILITATION SERVICES		
301 Salaries -----	\$ 9,895.88	\$ 7,815.92
302 Travel Expense -----	1,713.62	2,148.38
303 Expense of Board Members Bureau of Employment for the Blind -----	470.70	187.15
TOTAL -----	\$ 12,080.20	\$ 10,151.45
IV. VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE & PLACEMENT SERVICES		
401 Salaries -----	\$ 98,107.95	\$ 103,131.01
402 Travel Expense -----	20,566.82	20,349.83
TOTAL -----	\$ 118,674.77	\$ 123,480.84
V. PAYMENTS TO NEEDY BLIND		
501 County -----	\$ 390,458.23	\$ 415,592.71
502 Federal -----	2,120,032.85	2,321,956.54
503 State -----	390,467.92	416,021.13
TOTAL -----	\$2,900,959.00	\$3,153,570.38

VI. CASE SERVICES

601 Examination -----	\$ 64,546.88	\$ 66,698.59
602 Treatment -----	68,959.62	65,192.33
603 Prosthetic Appliances -----	128,219.55	138,241.02
604 Hospitalization -----	210,145.21	252,584.59
605 Training Expense -----	84,322.00	84,195.02
606 Training Supplies -----	13,994.38	21,469.54
607 Maintenance -----	82,961.61	90,343.07
608 Transportation -----	8,071.97	8,190.85
609 Placement Equipment -----	59,559.69	49,669.76
TOTAL -----	\$ 720,780.91	\$ 776,584.77

VII. COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

701 Salaries -----	\$ 139,600.65	\$ 150,183.57
702 Travel Expense -----	59,826.09	63,397.21
703 Federal Administration Direct to Counties -----	49,211.41	49,150.50
TOTAL -----	\$ 248,638.15	\$ 262,731.28

VIII. COUNTY EQUALIZATION FUND

801 County Equalization Fund -----	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
TOTAL -----	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00

IX. PRECONDITIONING CENTER

901 Supplies and Materials -----	\$ 19,997.04	\$ 19,992.12
902 Equipment -----	4,000.00	3,870.16
903 Heat, Lights & Water -----	11,980.93	11,981.22
904 Repairs & Alterations -----	5,000.00	5,000.00
TOTAL -----	\$ 40,977.97	\$ 40,843.50

X. WORKSHOPS

1001 Equipment -----	\$ 27,590.75	\$ 29,999.34
TOTAL -----	\$ 27,590.75	\$ 29,999.34

XI. MERIT SALARY INCREMENTS

XII. CONTRACTUAL SERVICES -----	\$ 11,950.00	\$ 11,680.00
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XIII. WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION -----	\$ 3,101.25	\$ 609.18
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XIV. PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH

1401 Supplies and Materials -----	\$ 156.40	\$ 100.41
1402 Postage, Tel. & Tel. -----	30.00	
1403 Travel Expense -----	120.77	272.71
1404 Professional Fees -----	1,865.00	1,135.00
1405 Equipment -----	1,880.69	1,293.38
TOTAL -----	\$ 4,052.86	\$ 2,801.50

TOTAL REQUIREMENTS ----- \$4,288,466.63 \$4,635,982.28

LESS: RECEIPTS ----- \$3,425,535.97 \$3,697,093.46

APPROPRIATION ----- \$ 862,930.66 \$ 938,888.82

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